

## CLAIMS

- 1       1.     A computer controlled method comprising:
  - 2                 establishing communication between a situation notification device and a
  - 3                 provisioning device over a preferred channel;
  - 4                 providing provisioning information to said situation notification device over
  - 5                 said preferred channel, whereby said situation notification device is automatically
  - 6                 configured to receive subject matter information responsive to said provisioning
  - 7                 information;
  - 8                 receiving said subject matter information;
  - 9                 verifying said subject matter information with said provisioning information;
  - 10                and
  - 11                presenting said subject matter information responsive to the step of verifying.
- 1       2.     The computer controlled method of claim 1, wherein the step of providing further  
2                comprises:
  - 3                 exchanging key commitment information over said preferred channel between
  - 4                 said provisioning device and said situation notification device;
  - 5                 receiving a public key by said situation notification device;
  - 6                 verifying said public key with said key commitment information; and
  - 7                 receiving a credential authorized by a credential issuing authority.
- 1       3.     The computer controlled method of claim 1, wherein said preferred channel is a  
2                location-limited channel.

- 1 4. The computer controlled method of claim 1, wherein said preferred channel uses a  
2 telephone switching system.
- 1 5. The computer controlled method of claim 1, wherein said preferred channel has a  
2 demonstrative identification property and an authenticity property.
- 1 6. The computer controlled method of claim 1, wherein subject matter information is  
2 received using an antenna, a telephone line, a local area network, a wide area  
3 network, a wireless network, or a broadcast network.
- 1 7. The computer controlled method of claim 1, wherein said situation notification  
2 device is a computer, a television, a radio, a telephone, a push to talk device, a  
3 pager, a clock, a thermostat, a network appliance, or a home appliance.
- 1 8. The computer controlled method of claim 1, further comprising forwarding said  
2 subject matter information.
- 1 9. The computer controlled method of claim 1, wherein said subject matter  
2 information is alarm information.
- 1 10. A computer-readable storage medium storing instructions that when executed by a  
2 computer cause the computer to present subject matter information, the method  
3 comprising steps of:
- 4       establishing communication between a situation notification device and a  
5 provisioning device over a preferred channel;
- 6       providing provisioning information to said situation notification device over  
7 said preferred channel, whereby said situation notification device is automatically  
8 configured to receive said subject matter information responsive to said  
9 provisioning information;
- 10       receiving said subject matter information;

11                    verifying said subject matter information with said provisioning information;  
12                    and

13                    presenting said subject matter information responsive to the step of verifying.

1        11.        The computer-readable storage medium of claim 10, wherein the step of providing  
2                    further comprises:

3                    exchanging key commitment information over said preferred channel between  
4                    said provisioning device and said situation notification device;

5                    receiving a public key by said situation notification device;

6                    verifying said public key with said key commitment information; and

7                    receiving a credential authorized by a credential issuing authority.

1        12.        The computer-readable storage medium of claim 10, wherein said preferred channel  
2                    is a location-limited channel.

1        13.        The computer-readable storage medium of claim 10, wherein said preferred channel  
2                    uses a telephone switching system.

1        14.        The computer-readable storage medium of claim 10, wherein said preferred channel  
2                    has a demonstrative identification property and an authenticity property.

1        15.        The computer-readable storage medium of claim 10, wherein subject matter  
2                    information is received using an antenna, a telephone line, a local area network, a  
3                    wide area network, a wireless network, or a broadcast network.

1        16.        The computer-readable storage medium of claim 10, wherein said situation  
2                    notification device is a computer, a television, a radio, a telephone, a push to talk  
3                    device, a pager, a clock, a thermostat, a network appliance, or a home appliance.

1 17. The computer-readable storage medium of claim 10, further comprising forwarding  
2 said subject matter information.

1 18. The computer-readable storage medium of claim 10, wherein said subject matter  
2 information is alarm information.

1 19. An apparatus comprising:

2 at least one port configured to establish a preferred channel;

3 a first communication mechanism configured to receive provisioning  
4 information over said preferred channel, whereby the apparatus is configured to be  
5 able to receive subject matter information responsive to said provisioning  
6 information;

7 a second communication mechanism configured to receive said subject matter  
8 information subsequent to operation of the first communication mechanism;

9 a verification mechanism configured to verify said subject matter information  
10 with said provisioning information; and

11 a presentation mechanism configured to present said subject matter  
12 information responsive to the verification mechanism.

1 20. The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the first communication mechanism further  
2 comprises:

3 a key commitment receiver mechanism configured to receive key commitment  
4 information through said at least one port;

5 a key receiver mechanism configured to receive a public key;

6 a pre-authentication mechanism configured to verify said public key with said  
7 key commitment information; and

8                   a credential provisioning mechanism configured to be able to automatically  
9                   provide a credential authorized by a credential issuing authority responsive to the  
10                  pre-authentication mechanism.

1       21.     The apparatus of claim 19, wherein said preferred channel is a location-limited  
2                  channel.

1       22.     The apparatus of claim 19, wherein said preferred channel uses a telephone  
2                  switching system.

1       23.     The apparatus of claim 19, wherein said preferred channel has a demonstrative  
2                  identification property and an authenticity property.

1       24.     The apparatus of claim 19, wherein subject matter information is received using an  
2                  antenna, a telephone line, a local area network, a wide area network, a wireless  
3                  network, or a broadcast network.

1       25.     The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the apparatus is within a computer, a television,  
2                  a radio, a telephone, a push to talk device, a pager, a clock, a thermostat, a network  
3                  appliance, or a home appliance.

1       26.     The apparatus of claim 19, further comprising a forwarding mechanism configured  
2                  to forward said subject matter information.

1       27.     The apparatus of claim 19, wherein said subject matter information is alarm  
2                  information.